The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George at 11 a.m. on Thursday the 23rd March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—
The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Enhancement of certain fees.

1385 *Q.*—Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the opinion of the Judges of the High Court has been obtained by the Government with regard to the enhancement in the fees for entry as Advocate, Vakil or Attorney, as proposed in article 25 of Schedule I-A to the Bill to amend the Indian Stamp Act ; and

(*b*) if so, what opinion the Judges of the High Court have expressed with regard to this matter ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government are not prepared to publish the opinion of the Judges of the High Court in the matter as they were consulted unofficially.

Stocking of tin plate.

1386 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO : With reference to the statement in the last Administration Report of the Fisheries Department, that a large quantity of tin plate costing about Rs. 15,000 had been purchased owing to depletion of stock and that the quality and the packing condition of this tin plate were thoroughly unsatisfactory, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(1) why, if the stock was depleted and the price was heavy, a smaller quantity was not obtained ;

(2) whether it is a fact that the purchase of this consignment was arranged by Mr. Hornell when he was in England ;

(3) if so, how he accounts for the inferior quality ;

(4) whether he compared the prices charged by other manufacturers and obtained sanction of the Government before the purchase was made ;

(5) in how many years this large consignment of tin plate will be used up by the cannery, taking the average consumption of the last five years ;

(6) what was the largest quantity of tin plate purchased in a single consignment by Sir Frederick Nicholson when the cannery was under his control ;